



March 31, 2015

State Representative Tong and
State Senator Coleman
Co-Chairs, State of Connecticut
Judiciary Committee
Hartford, Connecticut

Dear Co-Chairs and Committee:

Please receive this letter for submission on public record as testimony regarding H.B. 7051. It is with the greatest possible urging that I encourage you to move this bill forward for full legislative ratification. This bill will finally level the playing field for our state law enforcement representatives, in part through giving state prosecutors the tools necessary to tackle public corruption cases. It is at the local and state level that these cases have their most devastating impact, of ten causing years of residual mistrust of subsequent governing officials who have had nothing to do with the original crime. The impacted community and the State itself is most victimized and injured, often being seen both within our borders and from without as a 'paper tigers' who are unwilling to move to abate the destructive practices of this type of crime.

Additionally, I understand that the resources that have been stolen from the communities and the state where the crimes occur are not returned through restitution to the areas wherefrom they have been taken, but is instead re-directed to the federal agency prosecuting the case. This re-distribution of stolen wealth works against the sovereign rights of the state and further impedes development and implementation of the programs originally injured through the crime. This type of double jeopardy impact upon our communities and our state is both unfair and unacceptable.

Again, I strongly urge passage of this bill and expeditious application within the state judiciary branch. Such coordinated effort between the local, state and federal levels, similar to what we are seeing increase in the law enforcement branches, will likely encourage cross cooperation in other areas as well.

In God's Grace,

Carl McCluster

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